



OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Milwaukee County

SCOTT WALKER • COUNTY EXECUTIVE

September 8, 2009

Wisconsin Public Service Commission
610 North Whitney Way
Madison, Wisconsin 53705

Dear PSC Members:

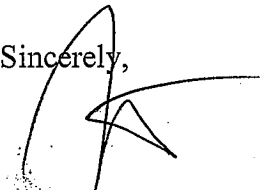
I am writing to express my concern over the recent actions by the City of Milwaukee Common Council and Mayor Tom Barrett, to seek approval for a 36% increase in water rates on the Milwaukee County grounds. This increase, if approved, would have a negative impact on all the institutions that occupy those grounds.

City of Milwaukee taxpayers also pay a county property tax, so they would be hardest hit by this 36% increase. This recently proposed increase comes on the heels of a PSC approved water rate increase of 3.8%, which takes effect on September 1, 2009.

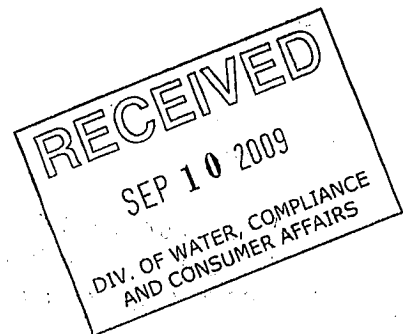
Generally, when considering rate increases, the PSC looks at consumption rates and maintenance costs associated with the delivery of this commodity. In this instance, a rate increase of 36% to Milwaukee County would result in revenues to the City far in excess of the Milwaukee Water Works operating costs.

I urge the PSC to deny this proposed rate increase as it unfairly allows the City of Milwaukee to balance their annual operating budget on the backs of city water users who would not only be paying 28.5% increase for their residentially used water, but would require that they also pay a rate of 36% through their county property tax for water used on the County grounds.

Sincerely,



Scott Walker
County Executive



Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
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